

April 5, 2006

Thank you for allowing me to write to you and express my concern over Wal-Mart being allowed to become a part of the banking industry.

It is obvious the damage that has already been done by Wal-Mart in so many communities across America. Small shops have been forced to close their doors because they cannot compete with Wal-Mart. Tax payers feel the brunt of Wal-Mart's actions everyday by paying for the healthcare of so many its employees and their children. Wal-Mart may be one of America's largest employers, but I know that the jobs they supply are not good jobs by any means. Workers earning just enough to pass the federal poverty wages? And we should be thankful to Wal-Mart for that?

Now, think what will happen if Wal-Mart takes over the banks, too. Small, community banks that have been in existence for several years could vanish over night. These banks have supported the community for decades, and once again we are going to give Wal-Mart every advantage but forget the little guys who have been here for us? It will be just another place where a neighbor's name is not known.

I am also concerned about Wal-Mart's labor practices, and I certainly wouldn't trust them with a dime of my money. How could I trust that my money will not go to support more of their poverty wages and cheap products?

Please consider these things and think about your children's future and your grandchildren and for all the little guys out there struggling to make ends meet.

Thank you and I wish you the best.

Betty Sanders